



T.J. Gabara 80

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application

Applicant(s): Thaddeus J. Gabara  
Case: 80  
Serial No.: 09/870,436  
Filing Date: May 30, 2001  
Group: 2816  
Examiner: Hai L. Nguyen

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited on this date with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Signature: *[Handwritten Signature]* Date: January 31, 2005

Title: Comparator Circuits Having Non-Complementary Input Structures

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 30, 2004 in the above-referenced application, Applicant hereby requests reinstatement of the appeal pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.193(b)(2). A Third Supplemental Appeal Brief is submitted concurrently herewith.

With regard to the objection to claims 1 and 37 raised in the Office Action, Applicant respectfully traverses the objection. The Examiner argues that the term "non-complementary structures" as used to describe the relative structures of the first and second input legs is unclear in view of the arrangement shown in FIG. 14. However, the specification at page 10, lines 11-17, clearly defines the term in question in a manner that is entirely consistent with FIG. 14. Examples of conventional comparators each having a set of complementary input structures are shown, for example, in FIGS. 5A, 5B and 5C, and are described at page 4, line 27, to page 5, line 10.

Accordingly, the objection is believed to be improper, and should be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joseph B. Ryan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J".

Date: January 31, 2005

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